

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 18, 2013

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United States Congress to enact legislation to allow Miami-Dade County to use fiscal year 2013-14 Head Start grant funds for program operations rather than for head start training and technical assistance

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm



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(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

6-18-13

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY TO USE FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 HEAD START
GRANT FUNDS FOR PROGRAM OPERATIONS RATHER
THAN FOR HEAD START TRAINING AND TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, as of May 2013, Miami-Dade County's Head Start program has an enrollment of 7,173 children (6,679 Head Start and 494 Early Head Start); and

WHEREAS, the amount of Fiscal Year 2013-14 federal grant funds that has been allocated to Miami-Dade County is \$56,964,400, of which \$636,948 is allotted for training and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, due to sequestration as a result of the United States Budget Control Act of 2011, the United States Department of Health and Human Services will significantly reduce its funding for Head Start programs across the nation, including Miami-Dade County's Head Start program; and

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2013, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start issued an order stating that program operations funding for all Fiscal Year 2013-14 Head Start grants will be reduced by 5.27 percent due to sequestration; and

WHEREAS, implementation of this order will result in a revenue loss of \$2,968,457 to Miami-Dade County's Head Start program; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Head Start has recommended that the required savings be achieved by the County's elimination of 406 of Miami-Dade County's Head Start slots, which would result in a significant number of children and families being deprived of the many benefits of the County's Head Start program; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County believes that it is more prudent to achieve savings by redirecting the federal grant funding allotted for training and technical assistance to be used to mitigate any possible reductions in program operations; and

WHEREAS, although there is some flexibility in how grantees, such as Miami-Dade County, absorb the sequestration reductions, the Office of Head Start advises that Section 648 of the Head Start Act (the "Act") prohibits using training and technical assistance funds for direct program services; and

WHEREAS, the Act does not give Miami-Dade County the ability to make the best use of the revenues provided to it by the federal government, in difficult budgetary times; and

WHEREAS, increased flexibility in how grant funds can be used will help the County try to maintain as many Head Start slots as is feasible,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the Congress to pass any necessary amendments to Section 648 of the Head Start Act or other legislation to allow the County to use Head Start funds allotted for training and technical assistance for program operations, in order to mitigate any reductions in program operation funding due to federal sequestration.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of this Board to send a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation; the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; the Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, Atlanta Regional Office; and the Policy Council for the Miami-Dade County Head Start program.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of

Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2013 federal legislative package to include this item and to include this item in the 2014 federal legislative package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro
Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman
Jean Monestime
Sen. Javier D. Souto
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
Audrey M. Edmonson
Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss
Xavier L. Suarez

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of June, 2013. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Cynthia Johnson-Stacks